

# CASTLEMAINE NATURALIST

September 1992

No 182

## WHITE-STRIPED MASTIFF BAT

On one of the milder winter nights in recent weeks, I was surprised to hear the loud chirrups of a bat patrolling our back garden at about 10pm.

Since few of the smaller bats produce high-frequency sounds which are audible, (and they mostly hibernate in winter) I realised that it must be one of the larger types such as the Yellow-bellied Freetail, or more likely, the White-striped Mastiff, which is more common in this area. It is so named because of the hound-like jowls which are characteristic of members of the group. They are also known as Freetail Bats, in reference to the length of the tail projecting beyond the tail membrane. The Mastiff can also be identified by a white stripe down each side of the belly where the body fur meets the wing.

The savage, grotesque appearance of this creature belies its nature, for it is usually a very docile animal. Mastiff Bats roost in the hollows or under the bark of old-growth trees, and being fast fliers, usually hunt above the forest canopy for high-flying moths and Christmas beetles.

S.P.

## MT TARRENGOWER EXCURSION

It was an afternoon of pure gold and heady perfume - the Golden Wattle a dazzling sight in the bright sunshine. The bird list was not great, but to see five Flame Robins flitting about together was a sheer delight. It was disappointing that the Fan-tailed Cuckoo heard and seen the day before did not appear. The list was as follows

White-faced Heron	Grey fantail	Fuscous Honeyeater
Brown Goshawk	Blue Wren	Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Wedge-tailed Eagle (2)	Grey Shrike-thrush	White-eared Honeyeater
Galahs	Buff-rumped Thornbill	Spotted Pardalote
Horsefield Bronze Cuckoo	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Silvereye
Wood Swallows	Striated Thornbill	Magpie
Flame Robins	Red Wattlebird	Australian Raven
Golden Whistler		M.O.

## SANDON IN JULY

Birds drinking at the birdbath were

Scarlet Robin (pair)	Brown Thornbills	White-naped Honeyeaters
Grey Fantail	Buff-rumped Thornbills	White-eared Honeyeaters
Wrens	W-throated Treecreeper	Spotted Pardalote
Striated Thornbills	Yellow-faced Honeyeaters	

Birds seen on the property were

White-faced Heron	Owlet Nightjar	Red Wattlebirds
Pacific Black Duck (pr)	Welcome Swallow (pair)	Fuscous Honeyeaters
Maned Duck (pair)	Richard's Pipit (pair)	Brown-headed Honeyeaters
Little Eagle	Yellow Robin (pair)	Yellow-tuft Honeyeaters
Brown Falcon	Hooded Robin (pair)	White-plumed Honeyeaters
Masked Lapwing (pair)	Crested Shrike-tit	Silvereyes
Abandoned nest with 4 eggs found 26/7; eggs gone by next morning.	Golden Whistler (pr+im)	Diamond Firetail (pair)
Galahs	Grey Shrike-thrush	Red-browed Firetail (pr)
Red-rumped Parrot (pr)	Restless Flycatcher	White-winged Chough
Crimson Rosellas	Speckled Warbler (pr)	Magpie
Eastern Rosellas	Weebill	Grey Currawong (pair)
Horsef'ld Bronze Cuckoo	Yellow-rumped Thornbill (pair making nest)	Australian Raven
Varied Sittellas		

Susanna Starr

## NARRAWONG

On the first day we saw plenty of birds including Little Pied and Little Black Cormorants, Intermediate Egrets, Caspian and Crested Terns, Hooded Dotterels and a Shy Albatross. There is a little bit of coastal heath near the caravan park. I also saw a Pied Oyster Catcher and a Pelican.

On the second day we went to Mt Richmond National Park. We saw a few species of birds including White-eared Honeyeaters. We heard an Emu Wren. We went to Discovery Bay Coastal Park. We walked to the beach when we found the track was flooded! (We found another way to the beach anyway). On the walk to the beach we saw a Greenfinch. On the beach we saw a beach-washed Fairy Prion. On the way back from the beach we saw a Striated Field-wren.

Next we went to Cape Bridgewater where we saw 2 species of albatross, Black-browed and Shy. There were plenty of gannets there too. We also saw an Australian Fur Seal.

On the third day Simon and I walked up to the forest park. We didn't see much but we saw more than 40 species on the walk up to the park. In the

park we saw a few Forest Ravens and two Mountain Ducks flew. Rest of the walk to Whalers' Lookout we heard a Powerful Owl. After the forest park we walked east down Narrawong Beach We saw 3 Lapwings, 2 Hooded Dotterels, a Goldfinch, a Gannet, a Pacific Gull, a Little Pied Cormorant, Wrens, Scrubwrens, and Elegant Parrots (in the heath behind the sand dunes). Later on I saw a few Gannets and Seagulls and also a pair of Pied Oystercatchers. I also saw a Little Raven standing on the seaweed about 4 metres from the sea.

Tristan Kennedy. 20th July, 1992

## MYALL LAKES NATIONAL PARK July '92

The Myall Lakes are a series of dune lakes reaching from Port Stephens/Nelson's Bay to Forster/Tuncurry on the central N.S.W. coast, a distance of approximately 70 km. About one third of the area is National Park, and contains sizable tracts of the original vegetation, including remnants of rain forest. The diverse variety of habitats attract a wide spectrum of bird life, and therefore the area is an absolute paradise for bird watchers and botanists! The Myall River estuary, with mud-flats, swamps and estuarine mangroves, adjacent to the small resorts of Tea Gardens and Hawke's Nest, is home to pelicans, spoonbills, ibis and herons, and with the proximity of the ocean, many sea birds as well. During summer months there are many visiting waders from the far north of the globe - easily observed from the road along the river waterfront.

Off-shore (1.5 km) is Cabbage Tree Island - the first nature reserve/bird sanctuary in N.S.W. established many years ago. It is the only breeding locality of Gould's Petrel - estimated at 250 - 500 pairs, as well as being a home for Little Penguins, and Wedge-tail, Sooty and Short-tailed Shearwaters. The rugged terrain adds to the scenic beauty of the area.

Until mining was phased out in the early 80's, parts of the spectacular dunes at Hawke's Nest were the scene of sand-mining activities. Being rich in rutile, zircon and monocite, these heat and corrosion-resistant materials were in great demand. When mining ceased, one of the companies had undertaken a re-vegetation program, but unfortunately the use of four-wheel drive vehicles along the beach has ruined the restoration work, and the remaining vegetation scarcely survives. During infrequent visits over the course of about ten years we have noticed an unusual ground "holly" struggling to re-establish itself. Identified by Dr Jim Willis (formerly of the National Herbarium) as the European "Sea Holly" (*Eryngium maritimum*) which was introduced and naturalised on the far north coast of N.S.W., but apparently nowhere else in Australia, it had somehow reached Myall Lakes area. It has now increased from about a dozen scattered plants after the mining in 1981 to an area of several square metres on the inland side of the dunes, and on this July visit there was evidence of many flower spikes during last summer. S.P.

## KALIMNA PARK BIRDS

I covered much of Kalimna around Kalimna Point, down to an apiary in the Yellow Gums on the eastern side, down the track of which the name escapes me (it was called something), and all along the road through Kalimna. Saw amongst others, large mixed winter flocks, one flock included Striated and Buff-rumped Thornbills, a Grey Fantail, a Scarlet Robin, Sittellas and a few honeyeaters. Saw male Mistletoe Birds in Grey Mistletoe a foot from the ground, in Cootamundras east of the road, 200 m from the entrance opposite a dam and track.

White-winged Chough	70	Goldfinch	4
Striated Thornbill	66	Grey Fantail	3
Buff-rumped Thornbill	25	White-eared Honeyeater	3
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	22	Scarlet Robin	3
Red Wattlebird	22	White-throated Treecreeper	3
Galah	22	Pied Currawong	3
Magpie	21	Eastern Spinebill	2
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	21	Brown Thornbill	2
Red-browed Finch	18	Eastern Rosella	2
Weebill	14	Blackbird	1
Yellow Thornbill	14	Purple-crowned Lorikeet	1
Silvereye	11	Yellow Robin	1
Brown-h'd Honeyeater	11	Common Bronzewing	1
White-naped Honeyeater	10	Grey Currawong	heard
Crimson Rosella	8	Corella	heard
Spotted Pardalote	7	Cockatoo	heard
Australian Raven	6	Magpie Lark	heard
Golden Whistler	5	Blue Wren	heard
Mistletoe Bird	4	New Holland Honeyeater	heard
Grey Shrike-thrush	4	Sparrow	heard
Varied Sittella	4		

Simon Kennedy

## WESTWARD HO

[Our intrepid Editor, on assignment in Western Australia for the Castlemaine Naturalist, has filed this preliminary report.]

Our long "planned" trip to Western Australia started promisingly in fine weather in Castlemaine, but by Bridgewater it was freezing cold and wet, and our picnic lunch was ignored while we ate fish and chips in the car. The rain stopped about 40 km before Kerang, about the time we saw a pair of Brolgas on a dam.

At Tregowal Swamp we saw a flock of 20+ Black-tailed Native Hens. Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbills and dozens of Fairy Martins and Welcome Swallows were at the Middle Swamp bird hide at Kerang, and a

Spotted Harrier a bit further on, so it was a good start.

Highlight of the next day was watching an Australian Hobby having its lunch not far from where we were having ours, about 40 km from Mildura on the N.S.W. side.

That night we stayed at Renmark and had Pelicans at the door, begging. A huge flock of Pelicans and Black Cormorants were fishing near Barmera next morning. That day was rather wet and very windy, so we didn't see many birds, even at Cadell Ferry.

There were huge flocks of Little Corellas where we stayed that night, and we were given an apple and carrot to cut up for the possums which would visit. But it was cold and windy and they didn't turn up until 5 in the morning. They announced their presence by galloping across the roof. All the offerings were gone in the morning.

The next day was choice - more corellas, fine weather, beautiful views, and a baby babbler rubbing against Doug's feet at our morning tea spot just the other side of Port Augusta. We walked along the beach at Ceduna that evening and saw Pied Oystercatchers and Common Sand Pipers. We stayed on there for another night, because it was raining and blowing a gale in the morning. We had been going to walk along the jetty but the wind was too strong, yet a number of birds, including a Black-faced Shag, were huddling there. In the afternoon we went out to Thevenard and found Grey Teal in the vegetation and pools at the edge of the water, as well as Silver and Pacific Gulls, Fairy Terns, Crested Terns a White-faced Heron, Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers and Black Swans.

The drive to the border was in sunny weather, with only a breeze. We were joined for the morning tea by a family of very vocal Grey Butcherbirds. Flowers other than daisies and wattles were becoming more common, including Cockies' Tongues in one spot, and Desert Cassia. We took the track down to the head of the bight, and the whales were there. From the behaviour, and appearance of a calf's tail slapping and struggling above the water, I'm pretty sure we were witnessing the birth of a whale. The young one finally disappeared, and then appeared swimming towards the female's head. By that time she seemed to be on her front again. I counted eight animals from where I stood.

We got fuel at Nullabour, and just past there saw an animal that looked for all the world like a cross between a fox and a dingo. It was yellow with a rather scraggy-looking brush-tail, and a rather thick but foxy muzzle. Unfortunately were not quick enough to get a photo - I've kept the camera where I can grab it since! We walked in the Eyre National Park behind the Border Village that evening, but tho' there were plenty of calls we couldn't see anything except a flock of White-rumped Miners.

Next morning we got away early, and stopped to take photographs as we went down the gap on to Rowe Plain, and glanced up to see a Major Mitchell Cockatoo just flying off from a tree on the opposite side of the road. Down on the plain we saw ravens and a Wedgetail at road kills, and once stopped to photograph a young eagle which didn't want to leave his breakfast. When we stopped for lunch we finally solved the riddle of the dark birds which were flying with legs dangling. They were Brown Songlarks which were displaying. We stopped by water tanks and there was a puddle with Grey Teal paddling in it.

The countryside from the border was green this time. It was hard to imagine how dry and grey it was last trip.

That night we decided to camp at Newman's Rocks, which was the high spot of the trip so far for me. This is a granite outcrop 110 km east of Norseman. It's in mallee country, with salt pans in the low-lying areas. Because of the rain, the rock pools were full and the salt pans were lakes. There were Mountain Ducks on the large pool as well as a Pallid Cuckoo, Australian Raven, Grey Currawongs, Willie Wagtails, Chestnut-rumped Thornbills, Budgerigars, Yellow-plumed Honeyeaters, Port Lincoln Ringnecks, a Brush Bronzewing, White-browed Babblers, and at night, an Owlet Nightjar calling in the area. I got up at 6 am to a beautiful sunrise and went down to the pool before the sun came above the horizon, and saw the Mountain Ducks silhouetted upside down in the silver water. I tried photographing them and just hope I've managed to capture it.

Next morning, about 10 km down the road we came to Fraser Range, and saw Sturt Desert Peas. There were lots of flowers there, including Cassia, Senecio, a purple cut-leaf daisy, hop bush and a mallee, but it was the peas that caught the eye. As we travelled through Norseman and Coolgardie to Southern Cross, we kept seeing pink and white everlasting, the white was sometimes looking like snow on the ground. This time we found another granite outcrop that we missed last time, and no wonder - it was 120 km before, not after, Southern Cross. I saw my first W.A. orchids here - *Pterostylis nana*! Soon afterwards the rain started again.

Rita Mills.

## OBSERVATIONS

**WATTLES IN FLOWER.** On a drive to Bendigo on Aug 2nd, bushland wattles in flower included Cootamundra Wattle, Spreading Wattle, Rough Wattle, Woolly Wattle, Silver Wattle and Golden Wattle. Other plants in flower were Hardenbergia, Fairy Waxflower, Rosy Heath-myrtle, Yellow Star, Silky Hakea and Downy Grevillea.

**GOLDEN WHISTLER** has been seen at Chewton. (CM). Another report is of a bird with a bright yellow front, from Hargraves Street. Another Golden Whistler? (HP)

**WILLIE WAGTAIL** has been in a Kennedy St garden for over a month. (BM)

**HARCOURT SIGHTINGS** include a Crested Pigeon, a Boobook Owl and grey bird with a pink-purple head and tail. An aviary escape? (BE)

**CORELLAS IN WHEELER ST PINE TREES.** Corellas have been seen overhead with Cockatoos in Wheeler Street, and settling on the local pines. (GB)

**BROWN GOSHAWK TAKES BLACKBIRD.** Investigation of a disturbance at the edge of the verandah (in Campbell Street) showed a Brown Goshawk that had taken a blackbird. (KT)

**BROWN BITTERN** has been seen near the Crocodile Reservoir track at Fryerstown. (CN)

**NOISY FRIARBIRDS** have been seen at Junortoun. (GS)

**WOOD DUCK IN KAWEKA STREET** have been perched on a chimney, pecking at soot. (FB). Wood Duck have been seen also on the Western Reserve.

**SCARLET ROBIN** has spent a fortnight attacking his rival at the house window (in Sandon). (BW)

**WELCOME SWALLOWS.** A flock of at least 100 Welcome Swallows was seen along Sawmill Road (McKenzies Hill) on August 17. They were apparently attracted by appeared to be sludge dumps.

**BLUE-WINGED PARROT?**. Four parrots were seen in mid-August in a garden in Burnett Road. They were green parrots with yellow front and a long tail. A blue wing was evident in flight. They were not Red-rumps. (PM) [The description fits Red-rump Parrots fairly well. However, Blue-winged Parrots are found occasionally. A few years ago some were seen along Sandy Creek Road. E.P.]

**BLACK-FACED CUCKOO SHRIKE** was heard at Gaulton Street at 10.30 am on Aug 25. (MC)

**INDIAN MYNAHS.** A flock of four has been seen at Chewton, (K McK) and some are permanent at Guildford (TH).

**MOPOKE** was heard calling near Gaulton Street on Sept 14, possibly from the creek area (MO). Mopokes are heard from time to time from the creek near Wheeler Street (GB).

**HOVEA** has been flowering profusely this year in the local bushland. This species has beautiful blue pea-flowers.

**CYGNETS** have been seen on Lake Weroona

## **MT ECCLES CAMPOUT - OCT 16-18 1992**

The October campout of the Western Victoria Field Naturalists Clubs Association will be held at the Mt Eccles National Park, on Oct 16-18. The campout will be hosted by the Hamilton F.N.C.

Camping sites are available at the National Park. It has hot showers, fireplaces and live-in Blue Wrens, Koalas and Sugar Gliders. Alternative accommodation is available at Lake Condah Mission (20 min drive) and at Hamilton (35 min drive). Take your own food.

Frid 16 Oct. Arrive, set up camp. Meeting at Macarthur Hall "An introduction to Mt Eccles National Park", by the ranger, Andrew Carmichael.

Sat 17 Oct. Mt Eccles. It is a young volcano with many of its features still well preserved. These include the main crater with its lake, a line of subsidiary cones and craters, several lava canals along which lava flowed, lava caves, and extensive areas of stony rises, which are the surfaces of lava flows. The tall vegetation includes Manna Gum, Blackwood, and Tree Everlastings. The Manna Gums are the preferred sites for the koalas, and there is an abundance of other wildlife.

In the daytime, a choice of walks is available.

*Walk 1.* A 1 - 1.5 hour tour of the lava caves.

*Walk 2.* A walk to the crater lake and rim, plus an easy walk-in tunnel.

Sat 17 Oct. Evening. AGM of the WVFNCA at 6.00 pm, followed by a talk by Ken Grimes "Caves and Karst". A spotlighting walk will follow at about 9.30 pm if weather is suitable.

On Sunday there will be a tour to Byaduk and/or Mt Napier.

Further information and a booking sheet can be obtained from E. Perkins.

## **NAME CHANGES FOR LOCAL PLANTS**

Some of our most familiar plants have had name changes. The changes are

**Silky Hakea.** *Hakea sericea* is now considered to be restricted to N.S.W., and so the Victorian populations are now considered to be a separate unnamed species. For the present, its name is *Hakea sp.*

**Small-flowered Grevillea.** This species grows in the Smith's Reef Forest and changes from *Grevillea parviflora* to *Grevillea linearifolia*

**Helichrysum species.** The Tribe Gnaphalieae has been revised, and as a result many species have name changes. The *Helichrysum* genus is

particularly affected. The new names for this district are

Star Cudweed. *Gnaphalium involucratum* becomes *Euchiton involucratus*

Purple Cudweed. \**Gnaphalium pupureum* becomes \**Gamochaeta purpurea*

Yellow Buttons *Helichrysum apiculatum* becomes *Chrysoccephalum apiculatum*

Clustered Everlasting. *Helichrysum semipapposum* becomes *Chrysoccephalum semipapposum*.

Grey Everlasting. *Helichrysum obcordatum* becomes *Ozothamnus obcordatus*

Sticky Everlasting. *Helichrysum viscosum* becomes *Bracteantha viscosa*

Two common garden plants also have name changes. These are

Golden Everlasting. *Helichrysum bracteatum* becomes *Bracteantha bracteata*

Cushion bush. *Calocephalus brownii* becomes *Leucophyta brownii*.

The key to this tribe is

- 1 Florets purple at least apically or basally
- 2 Achenes with globose hairs; pappus basally fused ..... *Gamochaeta*
2. Achenes with clavate or elongated hairs; pappus free, connate or missing.
  - 3 Plants stoloniferous; flower heads clustered and surrounded by an involucrum of leaves; achenes epidermis with paired papillae ..... *Euchiton*
  3. Plants not stoloniferous; achene epidermis with imbricated papillae ..... *Gnaphalium*
1. Florets yellow
  - 4 Flower heads bearing two kinds of flowers, disciform
  - 5 Basal cartilaginous portion of involucral bracts with distal translucent incision
  - 6 Involucral bracts with marginally ciliate lamina; achenes with 2-celled hairs with one cell overtopping the other ..... *Chrysoccephalum*
  6. Involucral bracts not marginally ciliate; achenes with other hair types or glabrous ..... *Helichrysum*
  5. Basal cartilaginous portion of involucral bracts undivided
    - 7 Herbs ..... *Bracteantha*
    7. Shrubs ..... *Ozothamnus*
  4. Flower bearing only 1 kind of flower, discoid
    - 8 Herbs ..... *Calocephalus*
    8. Shrubs or shrublets
      - 9 Leaves triangular, stems and leaves white, densely woolly ..... *Leucophyta*
      9. Leaves not triangular; stems and leaves only somewhat woolly ..... *Ozothamnus*

Levantine Chickweed. This common weed changes from \**Cerastium illyricum* to \**Cerastium comatum*.

**Black Poplar** is now considered to be a cultivated variety, and the name changes from *\*Populus nigra var. Italica* to *\*Populus nigra "Italica"*.

**Snow Gum.** The alpine Snow Gum becomes *Eucalyptus niphophila*. Some of the Falls Creek and Baw Baw populations will become separate species.

**Ox-tongue.** The rather uncommon weed (in this district) changes from *\*Picris echioides* to *\*Helminthotheca echioides*.

## **FLORA SURVEYS ALONG RAILWAY RESERVES**

During the next twelve months, the Department of Conservation and Environment will conduct flora surveys along used and disused railway lines throughout the Bendigo Region. The surveys will be aimed at identifying and mapping significant remnant communities and species and later developing a management plan for their protection, including fencing or signposting. Locally, the Bendigo Region extends as far west as Cairn Curran.

CFNC has been asked to assist by providing information about sections containing rare plants. If you can assist, please discuss with me or one of the committee.

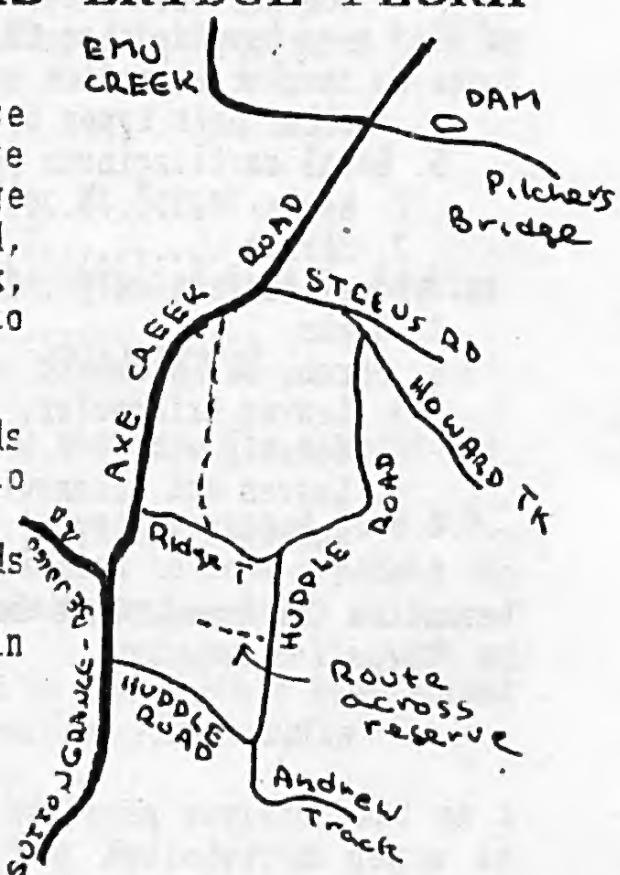
We will have a walk along section of the Maryborough line later in the year. See the Club program for details of this outing.

E.P.

## **CAMEL RIDES IN PILCHERS BRIDGE FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVE**

Club members may be interested in these extracts from a letter from Dept C & E re commercial camel rides in Pilchers Bridge Fauna and Flora Reserve, along Huddle Road, Howard Road, Andrews Track and Ridge Track, and to cross the reserve to gain access to Huddle Road.

1. Camels not be taken off the above roads and tracks except for the agreed route to Huddle road.
2. Camels not to be fed with introduced feeds on public land.
3. Crossing of reserve to take place only in months October to April inclusive.
4. Camels not to be tethered in the reserve
5. Maximum of 10 camels/group 3 times/week.
6. Camels to be led by a halter.
7. No signs or structures to be erected.



# **CASTLEMAINE F.N.C. PROGRAM**

**Fri 11 Sept TASMANIA** Speaker is Trevor Youngman, who has taken part in numerous walking tours in Tasmania. High School at 8.00 pm.

**Sat 12 Sept. BENDIGO WHIPSTICK EXCURSION.** Leave 27 Doveton St at 10.00 am sharp, or meet at Eaglehawk Town Hall at 10.30 am. Leader is Bill Flentje of Bendigo F.N.C.

**Thurs 17 Sept. THURSDAY EXCURSION.** Joint CFNC/U3A birdwatching excursion. Meet Cont Ed. car park, Templeton St at 9.30 am. Leader E Perkins.

**Sept 19-20 ANGAIR WILDFLOWER SHOW** at Anglesea Hall, McMillan Street, from 10.00 am to 5.30 (Sat), 10.00 am to 5.00 (Sun). Displays of local native plant specimens, craft stalls, visits to wildflower areas, bus tours, art display, slide shows etc. Cost \$2 adult; \$1 pensioner; 20c children.

**Thurs 24 Sept. BUSINESS MEETING** 7.30 pm at 38 Campbell Street.

**Fri 9 Oct. BIRDS OF THE MALLEE.** Speaker is Charlie Silveria. Mr Silveria has spent 15 years working on the ecology of the Mallee. 8 pm at High School.

**Sat 10 Oct. CROCODILE TRACK.** Walk along the Crocodile Track, Fryerstown. Leader is E. Perkins. Meet SEC, Mostyn St at 1.30. Take walking shoes.

**Sun 11 Oct. MALDON STEAM TRAIN WILDFLOWERS** with Bendigo Native Plant Group. See the Smith's Reef wildflowers. 1 pm, 2 pm or 3 pm at Maldon Railway Station. Alight in Smith's Reef Forest and catch one of the return trains. Cost \$7 (adult), Children (4-15 years) \$4, Family \$20, Concession Pass Holders \$5. Profit towards One Tree Hill appeal. Buy tickets from BNPG members at the station, not from the ticket office.

**Thurs 16 Oct. THURSDAY EXCURSION.** Joint CFNC/U3A birdwatching excursion. Meet Continuing Education car park, Templeton St at 9.30 am.

**Tues 20 Oct. RAILWAY WALK.** Survey of some of the local railway lines. Meet 15 Gaulton St at 9.00 am. Take lunch and walking boots.

**Fri 16 - Sun 18 Oct. Mt ECCLES CAMPOUT.** See separate notice.

**Sun 25 Oct. OPEN NATIVE PLANT GARDENS.** Open gardens will be in Bendigo area and is being organised by the Bendigo native Plant Group. Proceeds to One Tree Hill appeal. More information next month.

**Sat 31 Oct. KALIMNA WALK.** Festival program. 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Meet at Kalimna Walking Trail on the Tourist Road.

## **CASTLEMAINE F.N.C. PROGRAM (Cont)**

Sat 6 Nov. BALLARAT F.N.C. FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER. Informal dinner at Webbconna Bowling Club, cr Grevillea Rd and Grandview Grove, Wendouree. Cost of 3 course dinner is \$13.50. RSVP Fri 9 Oct to John Gregurke, 1 John St, Wendouree.

Sat 7 Nov. KALIMNA WALK. Festival program. 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Meet at Kalimna Walking Trail on the Tourist Road.

Fri 13 Nov. FLOWERS, FEATHERS AND FUN. Ramblings here and abroad. Speaker is Reg Johnson. High School at 8.00 pm.

Fri 14 Nov. METCALFE FOREST. Wildflower excursion. Meet SEC at 1.30 pm. Continue to Turpins Falls. Leader is E. Perkins.

Thurs 19 Nov. THURSDAY EXCURSION. Joint CFNC/U3A birdwatching excursion. Meet Cont Ed. car park, Templeton St at 9.30 am.

Fri 11 Dec. MEMBERS AND VISITORS NIGHT 8 pm at High School.

Sat 12 Dec. TANG TANG SWAMP. Leave SEC, Mostyn St at 1.30. Take tea and afternoon tea. Tang Tang is towards Mitiamo. Leader: G Sitch.

Thurs 17 Dec. THURSDAY BIRDWATCHING BREAKFAST. Joint CFNC/U3A birdwatching excursion. Meet Cont Ed. car park, Templeton St at 7.00 am.

Sat 6 - Mon 8 March. TIMBOON CAMPOUT. Combined WVFNCA and VFNCA campout at "Kangaroobie", Princetown. Program includes Great Ocean Road, Mutton Birds, Glow Worms, Rain Forest Scenic Drives, Wildflowers and Bird watching. Conducted by Timboon F.N.C. Further details from E. Perkins.

---

**SUPPER:** Sept B Perry & K Meehan Oct E Hall & P Shaw

**MEETINGS:** Second Friday of each month (Jan excepted) at Castlemaine High School at 8.00 p.m. Business meetings on the fourth Thursday (Dec excepted) at 7.30 p.m. All members are invited to attend. Visitors are invited to attend the Club's sessions.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS 1992**

Single \$12; Family \$18; Student/pensioner \$8; Supporting member \$20  
Newsletter posted: subscription plus \$6

**COMMITTEE:** Barbara Maund (pres), George Broadway (vp & treas), Brenda Envall (vp), Maggie Oliver (sec), Chris Norwood, Shirley Parnaby, Rita Mills (newsletter & public officer), Kaye Turner (programs), Beris Perry, Chris Morris, Clodagh Norwood and Ern Perkins (asst newsletter).